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# Heraclitus Riders,

AT

## A DIALOGUE between *JEST* and *EARNEST* Concerning the *TIMES*.

From Tuesday November the 23*th*. to Saturday the 27*th*. 1703.

*Jeſt.* YOU are beforehand with us now I perceive, in order to make Amends for your late Diſappointment. But Friend of mine, no more *Swan Tavern* Night-Works, I beſeech you, this Drinking is a Curſed Thing, I ſhall never reconcile my ſelf to it again for the future.

*Earn.* What, my merry Champion of the Family of *True Hearts* turn'd Adviſer? In the Name of Sobriety, what's the Reaſon of it? You never was without an Argument for another Bottle; but now I ſee the Caſe is alter'd, and there is ſome occult Cauſe or other for this unexpected Change.

*Jeſt.* The Cauſe is not ſo occult as you imagine, all *Europe* rings of it, and I am for having no Saints-Days but thoſe of the *Twelve Apoſtles* kept for the future. Had not the *Germans* and *Dutch* made uſe of *Partridge*'s Almanack, *Landau* had been ours to this Day, as the Report goes, and the Mareſchal *de Tallard* would not have had Time to pack-up his Awls, but muſt have gone without 'em to ſneak under the Cannon of one of his Maſter's Fortreſſes.

*Earn.* You are not to make a Judgment of Matters beyond your Reach, or Aſſign the Cauſe of a Misfortune that ſo highly affects the Confederated Powers. I am rather apt to believe that the Miſunderſtanding between the General Officers about the Supreme Command, which made the Landgrave of *Heſſe* ride Poſt for the Army, and which often happens amongſt Troops of different Nations, occaſioned this unhappy Defeat; and the Halt of the Toops of *Hannover* at a Time when there was ſo great Need of their Swifteſt March, could not but be at that Juncture of the worſt Conſequence. But their ſeveral Principles are to determine the Affairs of their reſpective Generals that belong to 'em, and it is none of our Buſineſs to intermeddle with what is *Foreign* to our Purpoſe, and ſhould be kept from *Heraclitus* his Knowledge, for fear of Changing the merry Conſtitution we have brought him to. Have you nothing to keep-up the Old Fellow's Heart with? Such lamentable Stories as you begin with, are enough to make it ſink into his Breeches.

*Jeſt.* Not I truly — This *Leopold*'s *Day* runs in my Head ſo much, that I ſhall ne're be my own Man again, till it is ſtruck out of the Kalendar.

*Earn.* Then I have ſuch a piece of News in my Budget, as ſhall exerciſe his Laughing Faculties for him. *Nob* with his *Three Eſtates* of Queen, Lords, and Commons, is flung upon his Back; and his Countryman will put no more Queſtions to the Beefeaters on that Subject this Seſſions of Parliament, take my word for it. One of the Members of the Honourable Houſe of Commons, has Declar'd himſelf in Favour of the Authorities which we have lately quoted on that Head, and for which he has all along Threaten'd us with the Reſentments of Parliament.

*Jeſt.* Let me Kiſs thee, my dear Boy, for this Intelligence. Then there is ſuch a Thing as a Fourth Eſtate, is there at laſt? Safe's the Word, I proteſt I have dream'd of nothing but Proſecutions on that Account, ſince you firſt ſet your Argument a-Broach, and would have Compounded the Matter with all my Heart for a ſimple Impriſonment, *&c.*

*Earn.* I never told you that there were *Four* Eſtates, which an Enquiry into the Papers upon that Head will make appear. But the Proofs which were introduc'd, Alledg'd there were *Three, without the Queen's moſt Excellent Majeſty.* And Sir *Humphry Mackworth* in his Excellent Treatiſe, call'd, *Peace at Home*, has added a Sanction to what I aſſerted in the following words: *Your Majeſty, and the Three Eſtates of the Realm, who are all Members of the National Church, do Conſtitute the Body Politick of this Kingdom; and You are neither One of the Three Eſtates, nor do Conſtitute a Fourth, but You are the Sovereign Head of that Great Body*, &c. Vid. Epiſt. Dedicat. to the Queen. Which is enough to convince thoſe who having conceiv'd a Prejudice againſt us, would not favour us with their Belief, that what we have ſo long been Inveighed againſt for, is the Sentiment of a Gentleman, who is neither a *Jacobite, Non-jurant Parſon, Atheiſt*, or *Papiſt*, but an Ornament to that Honourable Houſe, which his high Merits have given him a Seat in, and a Glory to thoſe diſtinguiſhing Electors that have ſent up ſuch a Member, who not only makes it his Buſineſs to *Speak*, but alſo *Write* in Defence of the Government and Church eſtabliſh'd.

*Jeſt.* God's Bleſſing on his Heart for it; may they never chuſe any other while he is either able or willing (which laſt is not to be doubted) to ſerve his Country. This is a Member for you and me, ſuch a one as we would both give our Votes for; What think you of an *Elegy* upon *Nob* now? For he muſt certainly *Dye* very ſuddenly of the Spleen, if he has any ſuch thing, after ſo much fretting, that remains in him. But you have not told me what that worthy Gentleman's Book treats of; without doubt the Subject muſt be of uſe that he takes it into his Conſideration.

*Earn.*

*Earn.* Yes, marry is it—— And of ſuch Uſe as it is the only means of giving Safety to the Church, and Security and Happineſs to the State; and on the ſame Day, which is *Thurſday* laſt, that it was Publiſhed, a Bill in Parliament was Order'd to be brought in Conformable to the Contents of it. If you look back to the laſt Seſſion, there was one brought in and paſs'd by the Honourable Houſe of Commons, for *preventing Danger from* **Occaſional Conformity**, which not having the deſir'd Effect at that time of day, this worthy Patriot has undertaken to *Vindicate* and *Explain*, and has perform'd it in ſuch a Manner as muſt undoubtedly Anſwer his Honeſt and Hearty Intentions, if his Candour for the Diſſenters amidſt his Zeal for the Church, if his Force of Argument and Livelineſs of Expreſſion, if the Cogency of the Danger we ſhall otherwiſe be in from the Enemies of our Holy Religion, or the Proſpect of *Security* to the *Eſtabliſh'd Government*, and the *Preſervation of the Publick Peace both in Church and State*, or the *Quieting the Minds of Her Majeſty's Subjects*, have any Influence over thoſe who are the *Conſervators* of the *Peoples Liberties*, while they are the *Defenders* of the *Prerogatives* belonging to the *Crown*. But I have not digeſted this admirable Performance ſo fully as to give you the Heads of it at preſent. Another Opportunity may furniſh me with means to do it, for it is pity that thoſe whoſe Pockets cannot reach it, ſhould go without the Knowledge of what is an Univerſal Concern.

*Jeſt.* Speed the Plough, ſay I, as Hypocricy may be torn up by the Roots, and there may be no more Diſſimulation among the Sons and Daughters of Unrighteouſneſs. This Bill that is now in Agitation, has put the Saints into a Damnable Fright. *Good Lord*, ſaid a Preacher in *Barbican* upon the News of it, *Set not thy People down in the Scroll of thy Diſpleaſure*, meaning the Parchment in which Bills of Parliament are uſually Engroſs'd. And *hold up thy hands*, Joſhua, cry'd another, to one that wears the Church Habit only for a Church Benefice, *leſt the* Amalakite *prevail over us, and Occaſionaliſts for ever ceaſe to be a Rhime to Lord Mayors Cuſtards; leſt our Brethren out of Office be Diſabled from giving us any more Silver Spoons, and it be not in the Power of the Foes to Chriſtmas Pyes, to give us New-Years Gifts in Chriſtmas Seaſon.*

Ear. What ſaid the Congregational Committee to this unexpected Accident? I dare ſwear they did not ſtand with their Hands in their Pockets, but ſcrew'd up their Unſanctify'd Faces, and laid their Heads together by way of Prevention.

Jeſt. In Troth, nothing at all at firſt. They were as Dumb as ſo many Calves Heads on the 30th of *January*, quite Thunderſtruck at the very Mention of it. The *Sword* and *Mace* vaniſh'd out of their Thoughts, and they look'd as if *thy Kingdom is departed from thee*, was written upon every Man's wall. They did not indeed ſtand with their Hands in their Pockets as you ſay, but would willingly have put 'em into 'em very heartily, had not they known it ſignify'd nothing to the Purpoſe, and that there was no *Enchantment againſt* Jacob, *nor any Divination againſt* Iſrael.

Earn. However, I ſuppoſe they met upon it, Did not they? For notwithſtanding they hold the Doctrine of *Predeſtination*, which teaches 'em that *every one muſt die when the Time is come*; in Diſeaſes of the Body, they have recourſe to Remedies in oppoſition to the Decree they pretend to rely on. So likewiſe in Diſtempers of the Mind, they generally ſeek out for ſuch Means as are moſt proper to remove the Misfortunes that ſeem to threaten them.

*Jeſt.* Meet? You may ſwear it; and in ſuch haſt that their Secretary came away without his Hat or Cravat. *Miſerere mei* was written in his Forehead, and he no longer thought of his Project of Stifling the Building of St. *Paul's*, by propoſing that the Moneys ariſing from the Duties upon Coals, which were to pay the Workmen, ſhould be put into the Hands of the Citizens of *London*: He knew no more of the Tarpaulins Grievances at this time, than they themſelves did, and the Officers in the Navy might be Rogues for him, ſince it was his Buſineſs now to Encourage Hypocricy and Roguery. *Dear Nob*, ſaid the Chairman, *a Dram of Comfort, I beſeech thee, for my heart is troubled within me, and I am ſore vex'd on account of our Feaſts and Feſtivals appearing ſo ſhort liv'd. Some Choice Expedient, and* Derby *ſhall be thy Portion for ever, and Tobacco and Pipes come flowing upon thee without ceaſing.* But *Nob* was as Dumfounded as the beſt of 'em; the **Three Eſtates** were to have the buſineſs under their Conſideration, and it was Parliament time, and he dare as well be Damn'd as be Saucy, and apply himſelf to the Queen, as one of 'em, during their Sitting, tho' he had bid as fair to be call'd ſo, ſince the fourth of *November* laſt, as any Man breathing. At length, after they had held up their Eyes, made abundance of Grimaces, and Compos'd their Countenances according to the Moddel of the Thoughtful, they came to the following Reſolutions.

*Reſolv'd*, That tho' we are a Congregation that has *Poſts* inſtead of *Pillars* to it, we cannot want Supports for it while we are Poſſeſs'd of Places of Truſt; And that the only Means for us to keep thoſe Places of Truſt, is to forward the Growth of Hypocricy.

*Reſolv'd*, That Solliciting for Tarpaulins for 2 Pence *per* Head in a Carnal way, is our A—— in a Band-box, to making Intereſt for the Saints that Counterfeit the Gifts of the Spirit; And that *Nob* drop his Complaints againſt *Greenwich-hoſpital's* New Commiſſioners, and leave *burning* his Fingers about the *Coals*, to keep us in the Poſſeſſion of what muſt make the *Pot Boil.*

*Reſolv'd*, That the only way to compleat our wiſh'd for Purpoſes, is to ſcatter Fears and Jealouſies, as if the Toleration Act were to be Repeal'd, when we have been aſſur'd from the Throne there is nothing like it; And that Circular Letters be Iſſu'd out for this end, to the ſeveral Places which our Brother Occaſionaliſts belong to.

*Reſolv'd*, That the *Sin* of *Modeſty* is a great Impediment to the *Heaven* of *Preferment*; And that every Member belonging to our Communion has an undoubted Right to turn Juggler, and play *Jack in a Box*, in order to get in to be *Jack in an Office.*

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